GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1709
ANSWERED ON:02.08.2001
MEETING OF GMS
RAMESH CHAND TOMAR;SHYAMA SINGH

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he has called a meeting of Railway General Managers recently and stressed the need to maintain safety, plugging revenue leakages and meeting financial targets;

(b) if so, the details of the strategy chalked out to meet the various challanges before the Railways;

(c) whether corruption in Railways are primarily responsible for various draw backs; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to root out corruption in the Railways?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Strategy to meet various challenges faced by the Railway is not formulated in a single meeting with General Managers. During the meeting, stress was laid on innovative marketing, expenditure control, rightsizing, plugging revenue leakage, regular Safety Audits and clearing arrears of asset renewals.

(c) & (d): Although Corruption on Railways is not primarily responsible for various drawbacks, a number of steps have been taken by the Government to root out corruption in Railways. These steps include frequent checks in areas of public/user interface and mass contact areas, random checks in auctions and scrap disposal, random scrutiny of major contracts and ongoing works etc. to detect and curb irregularities/malpractices. While staff is educated to inculcate awareness about proper procedures, strict disciplinary action is also taken against staff involved in irregularities.